

**NELSON MANDELA TOWNSHIP YOUTH EMPOWERMENT**

**Nemato Change a Life**

Nemato Change a Life offers a ‘cradle to career’ youth empowerment programme for disadvantaged youth from the townships in Port Alfred: Nelson Mandela Township (Nemato), Thorn Hill and Station Hill. We help our youth to get the mindset, knowledge, skills and support to escape from poverty: *success in life – for youth, by youth.*

**retreat**



We spent a week at the Woody Cape Nature Reserve for a retreat. These retreats, ran by Bunie and Maphorie, are a key part of our programme, helping us heal from the trauma of growing up in a poverty-stricken community.

**Lebu on TV**



Our fencer Lebu was on national TV (SABC 2) on *Beyond the Rainbow*. You can watch his story on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/Ea68iUnGQcw>

**Lunga in Italy**



Our former rower and manager Lunga (right) competed at the Coastal Rowing World Championships in Italy. Read more: <https://bit.ly/40aVDIn>

**internet**



After months of struggling without internet, we're finally back on track. Thanks to a Telkom grant, we now have superfast internet. No more issues with the internet coming to a standstill during busy hours at our office.



## business updates

With limited jobs available, starting your own business is a great way to escape poverty and boost our economy. Please support our young entrepreneurs!



Lifa is a talented photographer. We provided him with this softbox to ensure the best lighting. He's ready to capture your special events and cherished moments with care and professionalism. Contact: [nxobolifa@gmail.com](mailto:nxobolifa@gmail.com), [Picfafa](#), 0847259855.



Asonle makes beeswax candles from 100% natural beeswax and hemp wick. A local bee farm just outside Port Alfred supplies him with the beeswax. You can buy directly from Asonle (0625650011) or from the Market Traders Store in Port Alfred.



Phelo recycles glass and PET plastics. He took the picture in the bottom left of a baling machine in East London, where he was learning recycling skills. You can drop off glass and PET at Nemato Change a Life or the Market Traders Store in Port Alfred. For large collections, contact Phelo at 063 088 6831.



Sipiwo and Agcobile offer sewing machine services like clothing repair and they make bags, hats and more. Sipiwo: 0639343904, [makeleniaphellele@gmail.com](mailto:makeleniaphellele@gmail.com) Agcobile: [on facebook](#)



Lihle plays the keyboard and works as a DJ for parties, church, events and festivals. Contact him at: 0671436397.



Manase is a qualified snake handler. Contact him for safe snake removal or if you're in the mood to cuddle a snake. Contact: 0630574360.



## coding



In our Sunday maths classes, we do coding. Level One is 'Tanks' coding, using cardboard tokens and a phone app. It's a great way to start, and even small children can do it! Level Two is 'kTurtle' on our computers. It's an easy programming language that can draw beautiful shapes and teach all the basics of coding, including variables and loops.

Yes, our coding class is about learning to code, but, more importantly, it's about developing logical thinking.



## NPO Forum



We were invited to a couple of meetings to formalise the local forum of non-profit organisations (NPOs). Now that the forum has a constitution and a board, it can represent the non-profit sector to both the government and funders.

The forum was invited to an Inclusive Tourism Dialogue by the Eastern Cape Development Corporation (ECDC) at Stenden in Port Alfred. The discussion focuses on a Master Plan for tourism development along the riverbanks in Port Alfred and how the NPO Forum can contribute to ensuring the inclusivity of the township community in this development.

Nemato Change a Life has a seat at the table in the NPO Forum and on its sub-committee for inclusive tourism development.

## courses



In addition to helping our members start small businesses, we also support our older members with courses to improve their career opportunities.

We assisted Siyanda (picture above) with driving lessons, and we're proud that he passed his driving test!

We offered Nomphumelelo a security course (picture to the left), and we're happy to report that she secured employment after completing it.



### electricity



Our solar power system failed, and shortly after, our Eskom box for grid power also broke. Left without electricity, we had to run our centre on a generator. Fortunately, we found a local solar supplier who repaired the system. Next, we're planning a solar upgrade so we can finally say goodbye to Eskom.

### painting



Room by room, we are painting our centre in cheerful colours. It's an initiative led by our member Malibongwe. It looks nice, doesn't it?

### rowing



Agcobile was invited to Pretoria for a weekend with the national development team. He finished fourth in the single scull, and trained in the development eight for the Boat Race in December. Based on his strong performance, we expect him to qualify for the Boat Race team.

### sports volunteers

Two German volunteers were invited to spend a year in Port Alfred, volunteering at Nemato Change a Life. This is part of a sports-based exchange programme between the German and South African governments. A few years ago, one of our handball players went to Germany for a year through the same programme. Unfortunately, 10 of the 18 German volunteers invited to South Africa were refused visas, including our two. It's the absurd madness of bureaucracy.

### handball



Five of our handball players were selected for the Eastern Cape team to compete in beach handball in Cape Town. These were trials to select the national beach handball team for the Junior African Championships in Tunisia. The final team has yet to be announced.

### fencing



Nikita has been identified for a year-long coaching course covering all three types of weapons used in fencing. This would be a big win for our fencing club, as we currently only offer epee. We hope to hear soon if she has been accepted.

## CONTACT DETAILS

### Nemato Change a Life

Registrations 220-298 NPO (Nonprofit Organisation)  
930033563 (Section 18A Public Benefit Organisation: South African donations are tax deductible)  
Level 1 B-BBEE contributor (highest level Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment certificate)

Address 53 Tyali Street, Nelson Mandela Township (Nemato), Port Alfred, 6170, South Africa

Bank Account FNB Port Alfred, branch (sort) code 210917, swift code FIRNZAJJ  
Shop 6 & 7, Heritage Mall, Gluckman Road, Port Alfred, 6170, South Africa  
Nemato Change a Life, account number 62256659461, cheque account

Website/Facebook [nemato.org.za](http://nemato.org.za)

### Leadership

|                  |               |              |  |
|------------------|---------------|--------------|--|
| Amalinda Nikelo  | Chairperson   | 071 718 0986 | <a href="mailto:amalindanikelo@gmail.com">amalindanikelo@gmail.com</a>       |
| Mthandazo Nobebe | Secretary     |              |  |
| Bongani Mangi    | Treasurer     |              |  |
| Sipiwo Makeleni  | Administrator | 063 934 3904 | <a href="mailto:makeleniaphellele@gmail.com">makeleniaphellele@gmail.com</a> |
| Jan Blom         | Founder       | 073 505 9168 | <a href="mailto:info@nemato.org.za">info@nemato.org.za</a>                   |

### Board of Governors

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| Bunie M Matlanyane Sexwale | <a href="mailto:buniems@gmail.com">buniems@gmail.com</a>                           |
| Lesley Lambert             | <a href="mailto:lesley@lambertconsulting.co.za">lesley@lambertconsulting.co.za</a> |
| Athenkosi Hlekani          | <a href="mailto:athenkosihlekani@yahoo.com">athenkosihlekani@yahoo.com</a>         |
| Simlindile Veto            | <a href="mailto:simlindilehumphrey@gmail.com">simlindilehumphrey@gmail.com</a>     |

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## OUR MAIN SUPPORTERS

Change a Life



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Alexander  
van  
Assendelft

